

LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A pallet, provided with a top deck and a bearing construction, wherein said top deck and said bearing construction are at least partly manufactured from plastic, while in the top deck and/or in the bearing construction and/or between the top deck and the bearing construction, first and second supporting means are included while the top deck and the bearing construction are attached onto each other, wherein the bearing construction comprises at least two stringers extending substantially parallel to each other, provided with bearing elements on which the top deck rests, which stringers have a longitudinal direction, and wherein at least a part of the first supporting means extends in a direction approximately parallel to said longitudinal direction in the bearing construction, and wherein the bearing construction also comprises cross supports extending approximately at right angles to the longitudinal direction of the stringers, wherein at least a part of the second supporting means extends in a direction approximately parallel to the longitudinal direction of the cross supports.

2. (Original) A pallet according to claim 1, wherein the supporting means are arranged for preventing, at least reducing creep and/or shrinkage of the bearing construction and/or the top deck.

3. (Previously Presented) A pallet according to claim 1, wherein the supporting means are manufactured from a material which has a higher elasticity modulus than the or each of the materials from which the top deck and the bearing construction have been manufactured.

4. (Previously Presented) A pallet according to claim 1, wherein the supporting means are manufactured from a material exhibiting creep and/or shrinkage which deviates from that of the material of the top deck and/or the bearing construction.

5. (Previously Presented) A pallet according to claim 1, wherein the supporting means have at least a top deck-supporting, rigidity-enhancing function.

6. (Previously Presented) A pallet according to claim 1, wherein the supporting means are at least partly manufactured from metal.

7. (Previously Presented) A pallet according to claim 1, wherein the supporting means are at least partly manufactured from plastic, in particular fiber or glass-reinforced or otherwise reinforced plastic.

8. (Previously Presented) A pallet according to claim 1, wherein the bearing construction comprises at least two stringers extending substantially parallel to each other, provided with bearing elements on which the top deck rests, which stringers have a longitudinal direction, and wherein at least a part of the supporting means extends in a direction including an angle with said longitudinal direction of between 5° and 175°, preferably an angle of approximately 90°.

9. (Currently Amended) A pallet according to claim 1, wherein the bearing construction comprises at least two stringers extending substantially parallel to each other, provided with bearing elements on which the top deck rests, which stringers have a longitudinal direction, and wherein at least a part of the first supporting means extends in a direction approximately parallel to said longitudinal direction, ~~preferably~~ entirely or partly in the bearing construction.

10. (Previously Presented) A pallet according to claim 8, wherein the supporting means are at least substantially confined in plastic of the top deck and/or the bearing construction.

11. (Currently Amended) A pallet according to claim 10, wherein at least a part of the supporting ~~support~~ means is injection molded in the pallet, at least in the top deck and/or the bearing construction.

12. (Previously Presented) A pallet according to claim 1, wherein the bearing construction comprises at least two and preferably three stringers extending substantially parallel to each other, wherein each stringer bears at least two and preferably three bearing elements extending above a top surface of the stringers, while in each stringer a supporting element is included for rigidifying and/or protecting the respective stringer from creep, while the spaces between the stringers and/or the spaces between the bearing elements, below the top deck are suitable for inserting tines of a forklift or pallet cart.

13. (Withdrawn) A pallet, in particular according to claim 1, wherein a top deck is provided and, at two opposite sides, a drive-on element which is at an inclination relative to the top deck and a channel connected thereto, in which channel a recess is provided at a distance from the respective drive-on element, such that, if the pallet has been laid on a floor with the top deck turned upwards, a trolley such as a rolling container can be rolled with two wheels over the drive-on elements arranged on both sides, via the channel into the said recess.

14. (Withdrawn) A pallet according to claim 13, wherein at two opposite sides of each channel a drive-on element has been provided.

15. (Withdrawn) A pallet according to claim 13, wherein in a bottom of the or each recess, an opening is provided through which, from an underside of the pallet, an ejector

element can be inserted for lifting, during use, a wheel of a rolling container received in the respective recess.

16. (Withdrawn) An assembly of a pallet according to claim 13 and at least one rolling container with at least two pairs of wheels, wherein the dimensions of the pallet and the rolling container are geared to each other such that a first pair of wheels of the rolling container can be received in two recesses in the channel while the wheels of the other pair stand on the adjacent drive-on elements.

17. (Withdrawn) An assembly according to claim 16, wherein two rolling containers can be received on the pallet side by side, with the wheels in the recesses or on the drive-on elements, respectively.

18. (Withdrawn) An assembly of a pallet according to claim 13 and a push-out device, wherein the push-out device is provided with ejector elements which can be inserted through openings into the pallet when the pallet is laid on the ejector device such that a rolling container placed on the pallet is thereby slightly lifted, at least one pair of wheels of the rolling container in the recesses is pushed upwards.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a pallet, wherein a top deck and a bearing construction are manufactured, substantially from plastic by injection molding and/or compression molding, said bearing construction including at least one stringer and at least one cross support extending perpendicular to said stringer, wherein the top deck is attached to the bearing construction and wherein first and second supporting elements are received in the top deck, the bearing construction and/or between the top deck and the bearing construction, wherein the first and second supporting elements at least partly extend approximately at right angles from each other, and wherein said first supporting element extends parallel with said stringer and said second supporting element extends parallel with said cross support.

20. (Original) A method according to claim 19, wherein the supporting elements are manufactured from a material deviating from the plastic from which top deck and bearing construction have been manufactured, such that in the assembled pallet, the supporting elements exhibit a different creep than the top deck and the bearing construction.

21. (Withdrawn) A method for transporting rolling containers, wherein the rolling containers are positioned on pallets according to claim 13, wherein the rolling containers with the pallets are taken up and transported, optionally stacked on comparable assemblies of pallets and rolling containers, whereupon the pallets are laid on a floor, optionally on a push-out device, whereupon the rolling containers are rolled from the pallets.

22. (Withdrawn) An assembly of a pallet according to claim 16 and a push-out device, wherein the push-out device is provided with ejector elements which can be inserted through openings into the pallet when the pallet is laid on the ejector device such that a rolling container placed on the pallet is thereby slightly lifted, at least one pair of wheels of the rolling container in the recesses is pushed upwards.

23. (Withdrawn) A method for transporting rolling containers, wherein the rolling containers are positioned on pallets in an assembly formed according to claim 16, wherein the rolling containers with the pallets are taken up and transported, optionally stacked on comparable assemblies of pallets and rolling containers, whereupon the pallets are laid on a floor, optionally on a push-out device, whereupon the rolling containers are rolled from the pallets.

24. (New) A pallet comprising:
a top deck molded from plastic;
a bearing construction molded from plastic and attached to said top deck; and
a supporting means integrally molded within one of said top deck and said bearing construction.